

DEC 2 - 1952

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# Christmas

## 1952

# YOUNG WINGS





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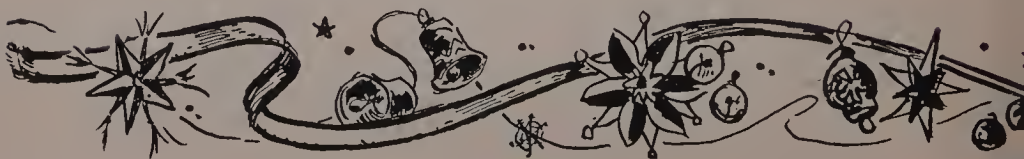
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## Merry Christmas

The gladdest day of all the year has come again to bestow a gift that hands cannot touch, that Time itself cannot destroy. Just as there is more to a book than its words and its story, more to a song than its notes, more to a home than its stone and timber, so there is more to Christmas than its gifts. There is its spirit.

The love that inspires Christmas, the laughter that lifts it, the color that warms it—these are what seep into the soul to last long, long after the gifts are forgotten, their usefulness lost. These are what endure down the years, forever bright and beautiful.

May your Christmas Day carry this spirit of great joy to sing in your heart forever.

Merry Christmas, boys and girls!

ANGELO PATRI





# Y O U N G   W I N G S

## From The Junior Literary Guild

Helen Ferris, Editor-in-Chief

Ruth Clement Hoyer, Editor of *Young Wings*



*A song at evening*

**P**RUE had not wanted to go to Cissy's party. She did not enjoy formal affairs like this one at which her cousin was making her debut. Born and brought up on the Texas ranch of which her father was foreman, Prue felt far more at home in a plaid shirt and Levis than in a party dress. The Fosters had moved a year ago to this experimental ranch in Pennsylvania, and yet Prue still could not fit in with Cissy's crowd.

But Mother insisted that Prue accept Aunt Marta's invitation

for a visit before and including the party. And when Mother made up her mind, that was that! So Prue went to Dayspring House, the Rountrees' beautiful home, riding in the ranch pickup with Mac at the wheel.

The meeting of Cissy and the handsome Texan who was cow-hand for Dad during the college summer vacation started entirely unexpected events—most of them happily exciting, but some, tragically sad. What happened is told to you older girls in *Lasso Your Heart*, by Betty Cavanna. And Prue herself is surprised in a new friendship with Cissy's next-door neighbor, a boy named Colin.

Junior Guild Members need no introduction to the author nor to the artist, Harold Minton. On page fifteen Betty Cavanna talks to you about books for Christmas. The books written by Betty Cavanna which have been Junior Guild selections are listed on page eighteen, and so are the books illustrated by Harold Minton.

*Lasso Your Heart* by Betty Cavanna is the new Junior Literary Guild selection for older girls. It is published in the regular trade edition by The Westminster Press at \$2.50. Dewey Classification: F (Fiction). Subject heading: Ranch life—Fiction.

# Sometimes Even Friends Fight

UNTIL Don Buckley met Hank Winton and Jim Dade at State University, the best friends Don had were his horse Red and his dog Rusty. He was an only child and had spent all of his eighteen years on an isolated mountain ranch. At the University each freshman was assigned to a senior, who helped the newcomer in registering for his courses and in finding his way around. Don was assigned to Hank, and it was not long before Don found himself drawn into a close friendship not only with Hank but also with Hank's best friend Jim. And Don soon discovered that these new friends of his were campus heroes, famous as Forest Service smokejumpers.

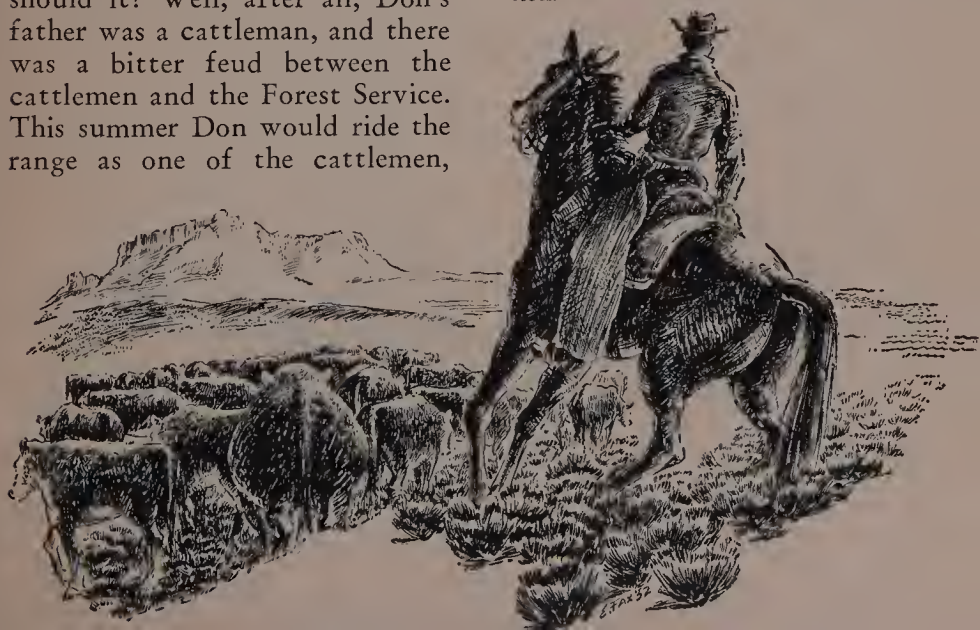
Now that the summer vacation was here, Don was worried. Was the friendship about to end? Why should it? Well, after all, Don's father was a cattleman, and there was a bitter feud between the cattlemen and the Forest Service. This summer Don would ride the range as one of the cattlemen,

while Hank and Jim were being sent by the Forest Service into that very area to attempt a friendly settlement.

You're in for thrilling reading, older boys, in *Rustlers on the High Range*, by Montgomery M. Atwater. Dangers far greater than those of the feud awaited the boys. Rustlers, the cattlemen's worst enemies, had been spotted.

On page fourteen Montgomery M. Atwater tells you about his dog Rusty. Mr. Atwater is already a Junior Guild friend, and so is the illustrator, Elton Fax, as you will see on page eighteen.

*Rustlers on the High Range* by Montgomery M. Atwater is the new Junior Literary Guild selection for older boys. It is published in the regular trade edition by Random House, Inc., at \$2.50. Dewey Classification: F (Fiction). Subject headings: 1. Ranch life—Fiction. 2. Forestry and forest protection—Fiction.



# A Boy Who Did a Man's Job



**M**EET Buffalo Bill. You've heard of him, haven't you? Ask your grandfather what he knows about Buffalo Bill and about the famous Wild West shows of years ago. In them, whooping Indians would chase stagecoaches and covered wagons, and then, just in time, Buffalo Bill and his Wild West riders would race to the rescue. For forty years Buffalo Bill and his show traveled all over the United States and even in Europe, drawing crowds and cheers wherever they went.

What else do you know about this hero of the old Wild West? What was his real name? Why was he called Buffalo Bill? These questions and many others are answered for you seven and eight year olds in your new book, *Buffalo Bill*, written and illustrated by the famous author-artists, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire.

As a boy, Bill lived in Indian country, at the edge of the plains west of the Missouri River. His playmates were the Kickapoo Indian children. He hunted with them, played games with them, and learned to speak their language. Once he traded his fine

new buckskin suit for a wild Indian pony. On this horse of his own Bill learned to ride—bareback or with a saddle.

Bill was only eleven when his father died. Bill, as head of the family, had to support his mother, five sisters, and a brother. Bill had a man's job to do, and the story tells how he did it.

Junior Guilders know well this fine author-artist team, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire. Turn to page thirteen to read more about them, their books, and their use of stones in making illustrations.

*Buffalo Bill* by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire is the new Junior Guild selection for 7 and 8 year old Members. It is published in the regular trade edition by Doubleday & Company, Inc., at \$2.75. Dewey Classification: B (Biography). Subject heading: Cody, William Frederick (1846-1917) (Buffalo Bill).



# He Kept His Nose Pointing East

THE DAY was hot, much too hot, and Jerry was friendly—too friendly, perhaps. That was really how Jerry happened to get into all that trouble. He had walked with Jim to the school-house door, just as he always did. Then he strolled back to the farm to wait until time to meet Jim after school. Usually he wandered around visiting the farm animals.

But today was too hot for much visiting. On the hillside he joined a herd of calves. As the sun grew hotter, the calves and Jerry all settled down for a sleep.



And then Jerry's big adventure began, the adventure which is the new story for you nine, ten, and eleven year olds: *Lost Dog Jerry*, by Tom Robinson.

The calves and Jerry, who was curled up in the center, were all sleeping hard when a covered truck drove into the pasture. Two men jumped down, made a runway into the truck, and then drove the sleepy calves, one after the other, up the runway and into

the truck. Neither man noticed the Saint Bernard among the calves, and the noise of the truck drowned out his barking. Nobody noticed him when the calves were driven from the truck into a boxcar. It was not until the



animals were unloaded at Kansas City that Jerry was discovered and set loose. Now Jerry's one desire was to get home. What adventures he takes you into as he points his nose eastward and starts back to Massachusetts!

Both the author and the artist are already Junior Guild friends. Read about Tom Robinson on page twelve and about Morgan Dennis on page eighteen.

*Lost Dog Jerry* by Tom Robinson is the new Junior Literary Guild selection for 9, 10, and 11 year old Members. It is published in the regular trade edition by The Viking Press, Inc., at \$2.50. Dewey Classification: F (Fiction). Subject heading: Dogs—Stories.



# Right This Way to the Carnival!

**B**USY — busy — busy! Yes, those were busy days for the boys and girls of Pleasantville. Everyone was hard at work earning money. Timmy was helping in the grocery store—no easy job! What if he should drop the egg boxes or break the milk bottles or spill the sugar or flour! Bobby was mowing the lawn of the man next door—and it was truly hard work to push that heavy lawn mower. Betty and Mary Jane were taking turns wheeling Baby Jennings out in the sunshine and seeing that he had his milk bottle at the right time. Yes, everyone was working to earn money.

Why did the boys and girls want money? Well, you see, one day a big sign went up in town. A carnival was coming. And what do you suppose was in the carnival? Danny Boy, the smartest pony in the world. Of course every boy and every girl in the town just had to see Danny Boy. But tickets cost money. What could they do? Earn money—

that's what. So they got busy.

In *Danny Boy*, by Alice E. Goudey, you five and six year olds will go to the carnival. You'll watch Danny Boy do all his tricks. He'll dance for you and jump through a hoop. He'll gallop around the ring with Jocko on his back. He'll play ball with his hind feet.

But there's a sad day coming for Danny Boy. His owner says the pony is growing too old. A good home must be found, a home where Danny Boy can rest and live a happy life. What happens? Read your story and see.

On page nine Alice E. Goudey introduces herself to you. The artist, Paul Brown, is already a Junior Guild friend. Turn to page eighteen for a list of the books he has illustrated.

*Danny Boy* by Alice E. Goudey is the new Junior Literary Guild selection for 5 and 6 year old Members. It is published in the regular trade edition by Charles Scribner's Sons at \$2.00. Dewey Classification: F (Fiction). Subject headings: 1. Horses—Fiction. 2. Picture books.





# A Pony Comes to Life

by Alice E. Goudey

I WAS born in Junction City, Kansas, and grew up on a Kansas farm where interesting things were always happening, such as droughts and floods and cyclones. In winter, blizzards piled the snow knee-deep and turned the windowpanes into entrancing pictures of icy forests. The cats had kittens, the cows had calves, and the mares had spindly-legged colts. And there were hundreds of fluffy little chickens that could be cuddled under one's chin.

I attended a one-room country school, where the pupils from the first grade through the eighth were all in the same room. When we recited, we left our seats and sat on a long bench in front of our teacher's desk. When we were supposed to study but did not feel like it, we listened to the others reciting. Younger pupils learned much from listening to the recitations of older pupils.

Upon graduating from high school, I taught for a time in a country school. I lived in Kansas City and St. Louis after my marriage. During the years I wrote some pieces for a newspaper and worked for a trade journal. Later we moved to Bronxville, New York, where my husband teaches science to boys and girls in the seventh and eighth grades. At school they have a wonderful zoo



Alice E. Goudey,  
the author of  
"Danny Boy"

and learn about animals by taking care of them.

We now live in Mount Vernon, New York, and have a daughter and two grandchildren. Patty is eight years old and Billy, five. They tell me what they like about my books and what they don't like about them.

I am writing because I always wanted to write, even when I was very young. Since my playmates lived several miles away, I wrote them many letters, only a few of which I ever mailed. As I recall, the letters all began: "How are you? I am very well."

I always wanted a pony like Danny Boy. I also wanted a small saddle that would fit him and a cart with red wheels in which I could ride. But (Turn to page 18)

OUR  
HONOR  
GROUP

*wishes you*

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS



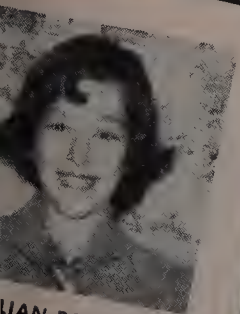
DR STANDIFORD  
ensboro, N. C.



PATSY McAVOY  
Memphis, Tenn.



BARBARA GROOS  
La Grange, Ill.



LIAN PORT  
oklyn, N. Y.



LYNDA SAWYER  
Forth Worth, Texas



JO ANN OFFERDAHL  
St. James, Minn.



V GRAVES  
teville, Wis.



GLEND A LANDRY  
Abbeville, La.



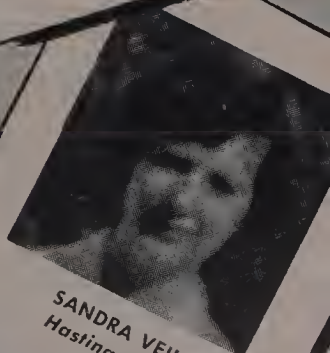
PEGGY FALLON  
Port Chester, N. Y.



EN



DONNA DIERS  
Sheridan, Wyo.



SANDRA VEIL  
Hastings, Pa.



# When Jerry Met the Porterhouse

by Tom Robinson

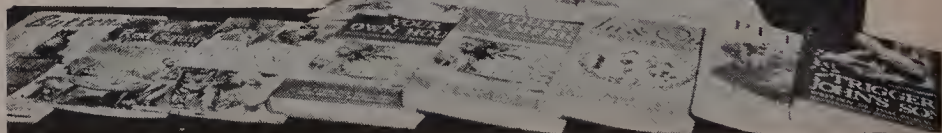
HAVE we a dog now? Of course we have. We always have at least one dog. At the moment we have two, but neither is really ours. They belong to our neighbors. But they spend most of their time with us, one on guard at the front door of our house in Hingham, Massachusetts, and the other at the back door. Discovering we were without a dog, they "borrowed" themselves from their owners, who don't seem to mind, and came to us.

We have not had a dog of our own since Pete died. Pete was so

steak—cooked to a turn and drenched in butter—from the open oven where it was waiting to be placed on the table for dinner. He carried it into the shed and consumed it—tenderloin, sir-

*How many  
of these  
have you  
read?*

*Tom Robinson, Junior Guild  
author, and his books*



much a member of the family that we have not felt like putting another dog in his place.

The dog in *Lost Dog Jerry* was three dogs back. We had him on our farm in Wilmington—the farm our son Lincoln wrote about in his first book, *Two Boys*, also a Junior Guild selection. That Saint Bernard was devoted to the family and to all the farm animals, and we could always count on him to do the gentlemanly and friendly thing. But once he "fell from grace." He lifted a porterhouse

loin, and T-bone. When discovered, he was sitting forlornly on the shed floor, his head bowed in shame. No word of reprimand was spoken or needed.

*Lost Dog Jerry* is my seventh Junior Guild book. Starting from right to left in the picture above, the other Junior Guild books are: *Trigger John's Son*; *Pete*; *In and Out*; *Houses in America*, which I wrote with Mrs. Robinson; *Greylock and the Robins*; and *Buttons*. The other books are *Your Own House* and *Mr. Red Squirrel*.

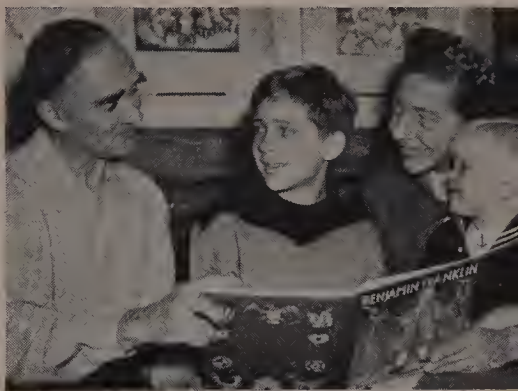
# Again We Present Your Favorites

Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire

A NEW BOOK by this popular author-artist team is always a thrill. In *Buffalo Bill* another famous person joins the heroes of the d'Aulaires' other biographies: *George Washington*; *Abraham Lincoln*, Caldecott Medal winner; *Benjamin Franklin*, *Leif the Lucky*; and *Pocahontas*. Before writing about *Buffalo Bill*, the d'Aulaires traveled over the West, visiting the places where *Buffalo Bill* had lived.

Other Junior Guild books by these author-artists are: *Ola*; *The Conquest of the Atlantic*; *Children of the Northlights*; *East of the Sun and West of the Moon*; *The Star Spangled Banner*; *Don't Count Your Chicks*; *Wings for Per*; *Nils*; and *Foxie*.

Most artists make their illustrations on paper, using pencils or brushes. The d'Aulaires have a very different way of working. They draw their pictures on lithograph stones. Each stone weighs from 250 to 300 pounds. In the pictures at the right the printer is pulling a proof of the stone for the black color on the jacket cover of *Buffalo Bill*. Each of the colors in each picture in the book has its own heavy stone. Imagine how many stones are needed to print the whole book, since there are four colors. The stones used to make their book, *Abraham Lincoln*, weighed more than 6000 pounds!



Edgar, Ola, Ingri, and Nils d'Aulaire



George Miller, the printer, inks a stone with his roller and then pulls a proof. Photos by Sam Rosenberg



# Rusty Ran Away with My Story

by Montgomery M. Atwater

ACCORDING to the letters I get from you boys and girls who read my books, you are all interested in how I came to write some particular story. Maybe you would like to know the story behind the story of a book which is not even written yet—the one I am working on now.

No matter how you feel about the other characters in *Rustlers on the High Range*, there is one that I am sure you will like—Rusty, the cattle dog. Now Rusty very much resembles a certain real

Montgomery M. Atwater, your own  
Junior Literary Guild author



dog. His name was not Rusty, and he was not a cattle dog. But no man ever had a finer partner. This real dog once saved M. M. Atwater's life. I put him into *Rustlers on the High Range* because there had to be a cattle dog. No mountain cattleman could possibly get along without one, just as I have told you in the book. And this is one of the ways an author can pay tribute to a good friend—make him live again in a story.

But something happened that I did not expect. Rusty is not the hero of *Rustlers on the High Range*. He is just one of those characters who naturally fit into the story. But every time I was writing about him, I would find that he was running away with the story. I had to take one whole chapter out of the book and put in something else for that reason. After all, it's Don Buckley's story.

When an incident like this happens—when a minor character takes the play away from the star, an author knows what to do. Naturally he writes a book about that character. So there you have at least one way a book comes to be written.

In *Rustlers on the High Range* two old friends will greet you—Hank Winton and Jim Dade, and you will make a new friend, Don Buckley. I hope you like him, too.



# Books for Christmas

by Betty Cavanna



Betty  
Cavanna,  
a favor-  
ite Junior  
Guild  
author

Bradford  
Backrach

I WISH that, on the flyleaf of *Lasso Your Heart*, I could write "Merry Christmas!" to each one of you girls who will read my book. I wonder how many other books will be waiting for you under the Christmas tree. More than one, I hope.

At your age I loved to get books for Christmas. The size and shape of the packages told me what would be inside, but the titles were always a surprise. Some of them you may have on your own bookshelves because time has not dimmed the fascination of *Little Women*, *The Secret Garden*, *Heidi*, or even *The Five Little Peppers*. But you may not have read the Little Colonel series, which I once adored, or the Betty Wales books. I followed Betty Wales through four glamorous, though improbable, years at college while I was still in junior high school, looking ahead eagerly to the day when I would be in her shoes. Like you, I wanted books about girls older than I—more sophisticated, more assured—girls like Cissy Rountree in *Lasso Your Heart*, perhaps. But it

was not a girl like Cissy whom I really understood, but one like her cousin Prue—I could identify myself more readily with Prue.



I can't remember reading many horse stories, but Albert Payson Terhune's dog stories were among my favorites though, now, compared with the warmth of *Lassie-Come-Home*, they seem contrived and sentimental. I used to wonder what Mr. Terhune was like and wish I could really see the Sunnybank collies. Do you ever wonder about the authors and illustrators of your books? Then there's a treat in store for you. The Junior Literary Guild has just published a book called *Writing Books for Boys and Girls*, which is composed of articles your favorite authors have written for YOUNG WINGS in years past. Look it up. I think you'll like it.

And a happy holiday to you with a wonderful new book, or more, under your Christmas tree!



# JUNIOR LITERARY GUILD

## Merry Christmas, Members!

To you who for the first time receive a Junior Literary Guild subscription as a Christmas gift, holiday greetings and a welcome! To you who have been enjoying Junior Guild books through the year and whose Christmas present is your renewal, holiday greetings and a re-welcome!

### Christmas Brought Me My Junior Guild Membership

DEAR JUNIOR GUILD:

I never cared much for reading until last Christmas when my mother gave me a membership in the Junior Guild Book Club. Since then I have enjoyed books. My favorite of all my books is *Behold Your Queen!* by Gladys Malvern. All of my family read this book and were very much impressed with it. I also liked *Julia Valeria*, by Elizabeth Gale; *The Right Job for Judith*, by Enid Johnson; and *Kay Everett Calls CQ*, by Amelia Lobsenz. I am very proud to be a Member of the Junior Literary Guild.

Yours sincerely,

MARY JANE PILKENTON, AGE 13  
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA

### My Junior Guild Membership A Fine Christmas Present

DEAR JUNIOR GUILD MEMBERS:

My membership in the Junior Guild was a gift from my mother for Christmas. I have enjoyed it ever since. My favorite book has been *Lone Star Tom-boy*, by Allyn Allen. It was about a girl my age, Francie Lou, who lived on a ranch. I enjoyed reading about her experiences and all the fun she had with horses. I like horses also. We go to a ranch in Estes Park, Colorado, every summer, and I ride horses as Francie Lou did. I can hardly wait to receive my next Junior Guild book.

Sincerely yours,

MARY SCANLAN, AGE 11  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Mary Jane Pilkenton, Walnut Creek, Calif.; Mary Scanlan, Chicago, Illinois



### I Have Read and Enjoyed All My Junior Guild Books

DEAR EDITOR:

I have been getting Junior Guild books for a year now. I have read all of them. The one I liked the best was *Finders Keepers*, by Myra Reed Richardson. The part I liked best was where Hal and Sam had a fight. It was funny where Cricket bit the seat of Mounty's pants.

Yours truly,

ELDON MCDANIEL, AGE 9  
ABILENE, TEXAS

### I Like My Christmas Gift— A Fine New Book Every Month

DEAR MISS FERRIS:

Since receiving my membership in the Junior Literary Guild last Christmas as a present, I have eagerly awaited the beginning of each month for the arrival of my new book. Your books seem to have something special about them that all readers enjoy, whether they like adventure, romance, or mystery.

I have just completed reading my latest book, *Copper's Chance* by Jane

# HONOR DEPARTMENT

## Welcome to Our Book Club

We hope you new Members, along with our older Members, will write for these Honor Pages. Each month we print the best letters about our Junior Guild books. Everyone whose letter is printed is awarded an inscribed book. Write your name, age, and address, and send us your snapshot.



Eldon McDaniel, Abilene, Texas, and Elizabeth Quigley, Beloit, Wisconsin

S. McIlvaine. It was wonderful, just the type of book a teen-age girl enjoys.

Your club is one I would recommend to anyone who enjoys good, clean reading. I am a very fortunate girl to belong to a Book Club such as this.

Yours truly,

FRANCES WASSEL, AGE 14

TURTLE CREEK, PENNSYLVANIA

## We Started Getting Junior Guild Books for Christmas

DEAR JUNIOR GUILD:

My sister and I started getting Junior Guild books last Christmas. We take turns. She gets a book one month, and I get one the next month.

I enjoy my books very much, and I just can't wait until my next one comes. I am now reading *Of Courage Undaunted*, by James Daugherty. It is about the Lewis and Clark expedition. It is a very good review of my eighth grade history. The book I liked best of all was *Hidden Pond*, by Helen Girvan.

Yours sincerely,

ELIZABETH QUIGLEY, AGE 15  
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

## "Young Wings" Helps Me At School with My Book Reports

DEAR EDITOR:

I have been a Member of the Junior Literary Guild for at least four years and have enjoyed every book I have received. I hardly know which I like best—maybe *Mr. Apple's Family*, by Jean McDevitt.

When we make book reports at school, I always report on one of my Junior Guild books. I let my teacher read some of them to the class. *YOUNG WINGS* helps me make my report interesting.

Your interested reader,  
VERAN GARNOS, AGE 8  
PRESHO, SOUTH DAKOTA

## The Coming of Each Book Makes My Happiest Day

DEAR JUNIOR LITERARY GUILD:

Maybe instead of a letter I should be writing a book to tell you how much I enjoy reading your books each month. The happiest day of the month for me is when my new book arrives.

Do I have any favorites? Yes, and there I would also need a book to tell of all of them. But my real favorite is *Jinks of Jayson Valley*, by F. E. Rechnitzer. I enjoyed it even more than usual because it came by special request.

I think your organization is wonderful, and I hope you continue to bring good reading to boys and girls for many years to come.

Your friend through books,  
PEGGY FALLON, AGE 13  
PORT CHESTER, NEW YORK

Look for Peggy's picture on page eleven.





## This and That about Christmas "Young Wings"

The Honor Group of the Honor Department

Your Special Christmas Cover

Your Junior Guild Authors and Artists



Who is the Honor Group wishing you "Merry Christmas!" on pages ten and eleven? Why, it is the older-girls group of your Honor Department. Each year more letters come to YOUNG WINGS from the older girls than from any other group of our Junior Guild Members. How about the rest of you Members? Are you going to let the same group be the Honor Group every year? How about you? Have you ever written to the Honor Department? If not, hurry up. If you have written, try it again. Perhaps in 1953 your group will become the Honor Group.

Our lovely Christmas cover was drawn especially for YOUNG WINGS by our good friend, Reisie Lonette, who also made the cover for our birthday anniversary issue of YOUNG WINGS last June.

Our Christmas YOUNG WINGS brings back many Junior Guild authors and artists. Betty Cavanna wrote those favorites of yours: *Spring Comes Riding*; *Paintbox Summer*; *A Girl Can Dream*;

*Spurs for Suzanna*; and *Going on Sixteen*. Montgomery M. Atwater wrote *Ski Patrol*; *Hank Winton*, *Smokeychaser*; and *Avalanche Patrol*. The books by Tom Robinson and the d'Aulaires are listed on pages twelve and thirteen.

Paul Brown was the artist for *Copper's Chance*, by Jane S. McIlvaine; *Ghost Town Cowboy* and *A Horse to Remember*, both by Genevieve Torrey Eames; *Plow Penny Mystery*, *Buttonwood Island*, and *Hobby Horse Hill*, all by Lavinia R. Davis. Morgan Dennis illustrated *Valiant Comrades*, by Ruth Adams Knight, and *Pete*, by Tom Robinson—and watch out for him again in the January YOUNG WINGS. Harold Minton made the pictures for Betty Cavanna's *A Girl Can Dream* and for *The Tangled Skein* and *On the Edge of the Fjord*, both by Alta Halverson Seymour, while Elton Fax illustrated *Avalanche Patrol*, by Montgomery M. Atwater, and *Dr. George Washington Carver, Scientist*, by Shirley Graham and George D. Lipscomb.



This lovely crèche was given by Mr. and Mrs. George R. Wallace to the Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Youth Library, writes Miss Alice B. Cushman, Children's Librarian—A. Miller Photo

## A Pony Comes to Life

(Continued from page 9)

I had to content myself with riding just plain horses. When I was about thirteen, I visited in Texas. There I rode regular cow ponies, and that made up partly for not having a pony of my own. But I guess it did not make up for it entirely because now that I am much, much older, I have brought Danny Boy to life in a book. He seems very real to me, and I hope he does to you.

My books are all about animals or nature. Whatever I write in the future will probably be about the same things since animals were my playmates when I was small. Everything outdoors seemed wonderful to me—and still seems so.

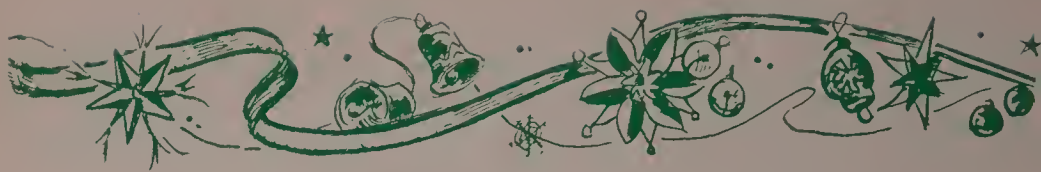
## "Merry Christmas to you!" says Jay Gee

Merry Christmas, gals and guys! Merry Christmas to all of you. Santa has a message for you. Here's what he wants to know: Have you taken care of your Junior Guild membership? Are you all set for another year? He says to be sure to renew your subscription early enough so that your book can go into his bag along with all the other Junior Guild books when he starts out Christmas Eve. The swellest Christmas gift ever is a new book all your own coming to you every month of the year. Don't miss out on getting yours. Hurry—hurry—hurry! Join now.

Wait till you hear about next month's humdingers. Sure I know Christmas hasn't come yet, but Helen Ferris and Santa stepped out just now. What did I do? Took a look at your books, of course. Jingle bells! What books! What books! Almost got into a scrap, though. Rags—she's yours, seven and eight year olds—got a sniff of Percy, Polly, and Pete—they're yours, five and six year olds. "Woof!" barked Rags. "Mew, meow, me-ow-ow-ow!" cried Percy, Polly, and Pete. "Quiet down!" I yelled. Now we're all friends. Rags and his firemen pals are listening for fire signals, and those three mischiefs are having fun with Shasta.

There's many a close call for Steve, older guys, when he has to take over unexpectedly for his sick uncle. Running a huge Alaskan fishtrap isn't easy, especially with fish pirates out raiding traps. Besides, sometimes an octopus gets into the trap. Then watch out, men and salmon. No easy time for Letty either, older gals. It's up to her to run the farm when Dad dies. To do it she has to buck her sister's determination to sell the farm as well as the possibility of losing the farm to a mortgage coming due or to bad weather. What a gal! Plucky, I'll say. Then there's fun for you nine, ten, and eleven year olds with George and Susan and Dumpling and their friends. Imagine watching football games from grandstand seats right in your own house. And what a dog!





# Merry Christmas!

*Once again at this holiday season we, your Junior Literary Guild editors, send our loving greetings to each and every one of you wherever you may be. May the new books as they go out to you from us each month through the coming year carry to you true happiness with new friends to cherish, new places to visit, and new adventures to enjoy. We shall be thinking of you all on Christmas morning!*

# Happy New Year!



THE JUNIOR LITERARY GUILD

The Book Club for Young Readers

Garden City, New York

Toronto, Canada